



Shoreline Protection

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has a number of authorities for assisting States, local governments, and Native American Indian tribes in the protection and restoration of shorelines and streambanks. Most of these programs provide cost-shared support, not grants. This fact sheet will discuss authorities which may be applicable to sites within the Great Lakes region. These programs were authorized under the various Flood Control Acts (FCA), River & Harbor Acts (RHA) and Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA).

Steambank & Shoreline Protection

Authorization: Section 14 of FCA 1946, as amended.

Program Goals: To construct emergency streambank and shoreline protection works to protect highways, bridges, other public works, and nonprofit public services such as churches, hospitals and schools.

Application: This authority has been used to construct over 20 projects in the Great Lakes region. A recent example is the Trinity Episcopal Church in Seneca Falls, New York. The Corps constructed a retaining wall to control erosion on the bank of the Cayuga/Seneca Canal which was threatening the church.

Cost Sharing: After the first \$40,000 of full Federal funding, the non-Federal partner must cost share 35 percent of design and construction. The local partner is responsible for lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD). The scale of projects under this authority is such that the Federal share on individual projects not exceed \$1,000,000.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$15,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$6,500,000.

Shore Protection

Authorization: Section 103 of River & Harbor Act of 1962, as amended.

Program Goals: To assist States, tribes, and local governments in the construction of works to restore and protect shores against erosion by waves and currents. This Federal program is intended for protection of public lands and facilities.

Application: This authority has been used at XX projects in the Great Lakes region. A recent example is the Century Park in Lorain, Ohio. The project, which protects the park from erosion by Lake Erie consisted of construction of two stone groins, removal of a stone deflection wall and placement of clean beach fill material.

Cost Sharing: After the first \$100,000 of full Federal cost, the non-Federal partner must cost-share 50 percent of the feasibility study and 35 percent of design and construction. The local partner must also provide all necessary lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD). The scale of projects under this authority is such that the Federal share on individual projects not exceed \$2,000,000.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$30,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$2,500,000.

Reimbursable Support

Aside from the cost-shared authorities described above, the Corps can provide technical support to Federal, State, municipal and tribal agencies on a reimbursable basis. The Corps has helped design shoreline protection features for the facilities of the NOAA and CoastGuard on the Great Lakes shoreline.

Planning Assistance to States

Authorization: Section 22 of WRDA 1974, as amended.

Program Goals: Support States and tribes in their comprehensive planning for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. Section 22 can also be used in watershed and ecosystem planning.

Cost Sharing: 50% Federal, 50% State or tribe.

Budgetary: Annual funding not to exceed \$10,000,000 Corps-wide. The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$5,800,000.

Mitigation of Shore Damage

Authorization: Section 111 of RHA 1968, as amended.

Program Goals: Provide mitigation for damages to shorelines caused by navigation structures built by the Federal Government.

Cost Sharing: The non-Federal partner must cost share 50 percent of the feasibility study, after the first \$100,000 at full Federal cost. The cost sharing formula for design and construction is based on the cost share of the responsible navigation project. The local partner must also provide all necessary lands, easement, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal (LERRD). Congress directed that total cost of individual projects not exceed \$2,000,000.

Budgetary: The FY 2000 appropriation for this program is \$400,000.

Expedited Reconnaissance Study

Authorization: Section 905(b) of WRDA 1986.

Program Goals: Conduct a Reconnaissance Study of a wide range of potential water resources projects at an accelerated schedule. Potential projects may include navigation, flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, shoreline or streambank protection, and water quality enhancement.

Cost Sharing: Expedited Reconnaissance Studies are conducted at full-Federal cost, not to exceed \$100,000.

Budgetary: The FY 2000 appropriation for this program directed six studies in the Great Lakes Basin, all as Congressional Adds.

For More Information

In order to obtain more information about the application of any of these programs in the Great Lakes basin, contact the following Corps District offices for sites in:

New York, PA and Ohio

Philip Berkeley
Buffalo District
716-879-4145
Philip.E.Berkeley@usace.army.mil

Michigan, MN and WI

Joseph Wanielista
Detroit District
313-226-7474
Joseph.R.Wanielista@usace.army.mil

Illinois and Indiana

Phil Bernstein
Chicago District
312-353-6400 ext 2000
Philip.R.Bernstein@usace.army.mil

For more examples of programs for shoreline protection, flood control, and environmental restoration, check out the Corps' Great Lakes Region web site:

www.lrd.usace.army.mil/gl/gl.htm